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NATIONAL REGISTER OF SHELLFISH PRODUCTION AREAS

Leroy S. Houser, et al

Public Health Service
Washington, D. C.

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National REGISTER *of* Shellfish Production Areas

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U.S. DEPARTMENT OF
HEALTH, EDUCATION, AND WELFARE

Public Health Service

National

REGISTER

of

Shellfish Production Areas

LEROY S. HOUSER and FRANK J. SILVA

U. S. DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH, EDUCATION, AND WELFARE
Public Health Service

Division of Environmental Engineering and Food Protection
Shellfish Sanitation Branch
1966

I

FOREWORD

The National Shellfish Sanitation Program is a cooperative State-Federal-Industry effort designed to (1) assure to the consuming public the safety of shellfish (oysters, clams, and mussels) shipped in interstate commerce and (2) provide for continuing use of a valuable natural resource. The Program is concerned with the sanitary aspects of shellfish production, harvesting, processing, and distribution. In recent years it has become increasingly evident that there is a need for reliable statistics on the size, sanitary classification, and location of the Nation's shellfish growing areas. The absence of such data makes program planning and administration difficult and has obscured trends in area availability and sanitary classification.

The information contained in this brief tabulation could not have been gathered without the wholehearted cooperation of State health and conservation agencies who gave so freely of staff time in collecting the information presented. We specifically acknowledge the cooperation of these agencies in gathering the information presented in the following pages.

Eugene T. Jensen, Chief
Shellfish Sanitation Branch
Division of Environmental Engineering
and Food Protection
Public Health Service

DEFINITIONS

INTERSTATE AREAS	- Waters receiving run-off from an interstate (or international) watershed.
INTRASTATE AREAS	- Waters not receiving run-off from an interstate watershed (or international).
ACTIVE AREAS	- Waters currently growing shellfish.
INACTIVE AREAS	- Waters not currently growing shellfish but which are biologically capable of producing shellfish.
AREAS FULLY APPROVED	- Waters which have been approved by the State control agencies for growing and/or harvesting of shellfish for direct marketing.
AREAS CONDITIONALLY APPROVED	- Waters approved by the State control agencies for growing and/or harvesting of shellfish; approval being contingent upon the attainment of an established performance standard by sewage treatment works discharging effluent, directly or indirectly, to the area.
CLOSED AREAS	- Waters prohibited by the State control agencies for harvesting of shellfish.

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NATIONAL REGISTER OF SHELLFISH PRODUCTION AREAS

The House of Representatives Subcommittee on Fisheries and Wildlife Conservation of the Committee on Merchant Marine and Fisheries held hearings on Molluscan Shellfish on October 2 and 3, 1963, at which time the problems of the shellfish industry were discussed at some length. One of the points brought out during these hearings was that there were no figures readily available on a national basis as to the acreages of shellfish growing areas classified as approved, conditionally approved, or closed.

In a subsequent report to the Subcommittee, the Secretary of the Department of Health, Education, and Welfare, noted that administration of the National Shellfish Sanitation Program had been hindered by incomplete information on the extent of shellfish production areas; the extent of areas lost to shellfish production due to pollution or toxicity; and on quality trends in areas available for harvesting or culture. The report also pointed out that if a national effort was to be made to preserve the shellfish industry, it would be necessary that the present Program be expanded to provide this information on a continuing basis. The report indicated that this deficiency would be corrected through establishment of a National Register of Shellfish Production Areas.

As a result of the Molluscan Hearings and the subsequent report of the Secretary of the Department of Health, Education, and Welfare, the Shellfish Sanitation Branch in the latter part of 1963 solicited the individual coastal States, through the Public Health Service regional offices, for available information as to the number and size of areas classified by the States as fully approved, conditionally approved, or closed. This information was published as a single table in September 1964, under the title "National Register of Shellfish Production Areas" and was distributed to interested persons and agencies.

Tables I-VI represent data available through April 30, 1966, from all coastal States, exclusive of Hawaii, Alaska, Puerto Rico, the Virgin Islands, and the Trust Territories. The data covers the following points by State and by Region; number, size and classification of areas; location of areas by interstate and intrastate waters, and by active and inactive areas. Definitions of the various terms used in the tables are given on page iii.

Periodic revisions are planned to provide a constant inventory of shellfish production areas as an aid in determining gain or loss of areas through progress in water quality management. In addition, it is expected that the system will be expanded and refined to provide (1) information on levels of sanitary quality which prevail in these areas and (2) information on factors which determine water quality.

The acreages given in the Tables have been rounded to the nearest 100 acres, where appropriate. Acreage data reflects water masses and does not presume uniform distribution or magnitude of shellfish resources in such areas.

National Register of Shellfish Growing Areas

Table I

Interstate Active Areas

Region	State	Approved				Total No. Approved		Closed		Total	
		Fully		Conditionally							
		Acres	Areas	Acres	Areas	Acres	Areas	Acres	Areas	Acres	Areas
I	Maine	0	0	0	0	0	0	2,500	6	2,500	6
	New Hampshire	0	0	0	0	0	0	--	-	--	-
	Massachusetts	500	1	3,000	2	3,500	3	2,000	3	5,500	6
	Rhode Island	60,900	1	11,600	6	72,500	7	18,900	20	91,400	27
	Connecticut	100	1	1,300	1	1,400	2	6,400	4	7,800	6
	Total	61,500	3	15,900	9	77,400	12	29,800	33	107,200	45
II	New York	13,500	1	0	0	13,500	1	24,500	2	38,000	3
	New Jersey	416,000	1	3,000	1	419,000	2	28,000	1	447,000	3
	Delaware	194,900	1	0	0	194,900	1	1,100	1	196,000	2
	Total	624,400	3	3,000	1	627,400	4	53,600	4	681,000	8
III	Maryland	808,000	6	0	0	808,000	6	17,900	5	825,900	11
	Virginia	822,600	3	0	0	822,600	3	3,400	3	826,000	6
	North Carolina	927,700	5	0	0	927,700	5	45,200	5	972,900	10
	Total	2,558,300	14	0	0	2,558,300	14	66,500	13	2,624,800	27
IV	South Carolina	1,000	1	0	0	1,000	1	17,500	3	18,500	4
	Georgia	0	0	0	0	0	0	7,000	1	7,000	1
	Florida	188,500	5	0	0	188,500	5	87,000	5	275,000	10
	Alabama	147,500	3	0	0	147,500	3	255,500	3	403,000	6
	Mississippi	3,500	1	0	0	3,500	1	0	0	3,500	1
	Total	340,500	10	0	0	340,500	10	367,000	12	707,500	22
VII	Louisiana	51,400	1	0	0	51,400	1	0	0	51,400	1
	Texas	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	Total	51,400	1	0	0	51,400	1	0	0	51,400	1
IX	California	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	Oregon	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	Washington	0	0	200	1	200	1	0	0	200	1
	Total	0	0	200	1	200	1	0	0	200	1
UNITED STATES TOTALS		3,636,100	31	19,100	11	3,655,200	42	516,900	62	4,172,100	104

National Register of Shellfish Growing Areas

Table II

Intrastate Active Areas

Region	State	Approved Fully Acres	Approved Fully Areas	Approved Conditionally Acres	Approved Conditionally Areas	Total No. Approved Acres	Total No. Approved Areas	Closed Acres	Closed Areas	Total Acres	Total Areas
I	Maine	291,600	96	0	0	291,600	96	58,000	96	349,600	192
	New Hampshire	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	Massachusetts	24,600	33	3,100	16	27,700	49	5,900	41	33,600	90
	Rhode Island	3,900	4	200	1	4,100	5	300	4	4,200	9
	Connecticut	47,000	16	0	0	47,000	16	8,100	7	55,100	23
	Total	367,100	149	3,300	17	370,400	166	72,300	148	443,200	314
II	New York	390,200	57	0	0	390,200	57	120,900	29	511,100	86
	New Jersey	27,000	27	1,100	1	28,100	28	29,000	63	57,100	91
	Delaware	14,800	2	0	0	14,800	2	2,300	10	17,100	12
	Total	432,000	86	1,100	1	433,100	87	152,200	102	585,300	189
III	Maryland	314,400	17	0	0	314,400	17	57,300	17	371,700	34
	Virginia	530,000	8	1,100	1	531,100	9	54,800	8	585,900	17
	North Carolina	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	Total	844,400	25	1,100	1	845,500	26	112,100	25	957,600	51
IV	South Carolina	132,500	14	100	1	132,600	15	32,000	3	164,600	18
	Georgia	97,300	8	0	0	97,300	8	36,400	8	133,700	16
	Florida	418,100	21	0	0	418,100	21	555,600	28	973,700	49
	Alabama	0	0	700	1	700	0	1,200	4	1,900	5
	Mississippi	23,000	3	8,500	1	31,500	4	97,300	4	113,800	8
	Total	670,900	46	9,300	3	680,200	48	712,500	47	1,392,700	96
VII	Louisiana	925,000	7	28,600	1	953,600	8	3,400	1	957,000	9
	Texas	289,600	6	19,600	3	309,200	9	178,600	5	487,800	14
	Total	1,214,600	13	48,200	4	1,262,800	17	182,000	6	1,444,800	23
IX	California	1,400	2	3,000	1	4,400	3	2,500	1	5,900	4
	Oregon	1,600	2	3,200	2	4,800	4	0	0	4,800	4
	Washington	43,200	34	0	0	43,200	34	800	10	44,000	44
	Total	46,200	38	6,200	3	52,400	41	3,300	11	55,700	52
UNITED STATES TOTALS		3,575,200	357	69,200	29	3,644,400	385	1,234,900	339	4,879,300	725

National Register of Shellfish Growing Areas
Table III
Interstate Inactive Areas

Region	State	Fully Approved		Closed		Total	
		Acres	Areas	Acres	Areas	Acres	Areas
I	Maine	0	0	800	2	800	2
	New Hampshire	0	0	0	0	0	0
	Massachusetts	0	0	0	0	0	0
	Rhode Island	0	0	0	0	0	0
	Connecticut	-	-	-	-	-	-
	Total	0	0	800	2	800	2
II	New York	356,600	1	15,200	1	371,800	2
	New Jersey	0	0	0	0	0	0
	Delaware	0	0	2,300	2	2,300	2
	Total	356,600	1	17,500	3	374,100	4
III	Maryland	0	0	0	0	0	0
	Virginia	0	0	0	0	0	0
	North Carolina	0	0	0	0	0	0
	Total						
IV	South Carolina	0	0	0	0	0	0
	Georgia	2,500	1	800	1	3,300	2
	Florida	0	0	15,000	1	15,000	1
	Alabama	0	0	0	0	0	0
	Mississippi	1,000	1	0	0	1,000	1
	Total	3,500	2	15,800	2	19,300	4
VII	Louisiana	0	0	2,500	1	2,500	1
	Texas	0	0	2,500	1	2,500	1
	Total	0	0	5,000	2	5,000	2
IX	California	0	0	0	0	0	0
	Oregon	0	0	0	0	0	0
	Washington	0	0	900	1	900	1
	Total	0	0	900	1	900	1
UNITED STATES TOTALS		360,100	3	40,000	10	400,100	13

National Register of Shellfish Growing Areas
Table IV
Intrastate Inactive Areas

Region	State	Fully Approved		Closed		Total	
		Acres	Areas	Acres	Areas	Acres	Areas
I	Maine	0	0	0	0	0	0
	New Hampshire	0	0	0	0	0	0
	Massachusetts	0	0	0	0	0	0
	Rhode Island	0	0	0	0	0	0
	Connecticut	20,000	3	0	0	20,000	3
	Total	20,000	3	0	0	20,000	3
II	New York	60,000	1	3,200	1	63,200	2
	New Jersey	13,500	2	6,500	2	20,000	4
	Delaware	0	0	500	5	500	5
	Total	73,500	3	10,200	8	83,700	11
III	Maryland	0	0	0	0	0	0
	Virginia	0	0	0	0	0	0
	North Carolina	0	0	0	0	0	0
	Total	0	0	0	0	0	0
IV	South Carolina	0	0	0	0	0	0
	Georgia	19,300	2	500	2	19,800	4
	Florida	0	0	139,500	8	139,500	8
	Alabama	0	0	0	0	0	0
	Mississippi	0	0	0	0	0	0
	Total	19,300	2	140,000	10	159,300	12
VII	Louisiana	21,400	1	0	0	21,400	1
	Texas	393,600	6	50,100	6	443,700	12
	Total	415,000	7	50,100	6	465,100	13
IX	California	700	1	900	4	1,600	5
	Oregon	0	0	8,500	6	8,500	6
	Washington	-	-	-	-	-	-
	Total	700	1	9,400	10	10,100	11
UNITED STATES TOTALS		528,500	16	209,700	34	738,200	50

National Register of Shellfish Growing Areas
Table V
Summary
Approved and Closed

Growing Areas		Approved						Closed		Totals	
		Fully		Conditionally		Total		Total			
		Acres	Areas	Acres	Areas	Acres	Areas	Acres	Areas	Acres	Areas
Interstate	Active	3,636,100	31	19,100	11	3,655,200	42	516,900	62	4,172,100	104
	Inactive	360,100	3	--	--	360,100	3	40,000	10	400,100	13
Intrastate	Active	3,575,200	357	69,200	29	3,644,400	386	1,234,900	339	4,879,300	725
	Inactive	528,500	16	--	--	528,500	16	209,700	34	738,200	50
UNITED STATES TOTALS		8,099,900	407	88,300	40	8,188,200	447	2,001,500	445	10,189,700	892

National Register of Shellfish Growing Areas
Table VI
Acres and Areas by States

		Interstate						Intrastate							
		Active		Inactive		Total		Active		Inactive		Total		Total	
Reg.	State	Acres	Areas	Acres	Areas	Acres	Areas	Acres	Areas	Acres	Areas	Acres	Areas	Acres	Areas
I	Me.	2,[illegible]	[illegible]	900	2	3,[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible],[illegible]	122	0	0	349,600	122	352,200	200
	N.H.	-	-	-	-	-	-	0	0	0	0	-	-	-	-
	Mass.	3,500	3	0	0	3,500	3	33,600	80	0	0	33,600	80	39,100	83
	R.I.	91,400	27	0	0	91,400	27	4,900	9	0	0	4,900	9	96,300	36
	Conn.	7,800	3	-	-	7,800	3	55,100	23	20,000	3	75,100	26	82,900	32
	Total	107,200	45	900	2	108,200	47	443,200	314	20,000	3	463,200	317	571,200	364
II	N.Y.	38,000	3	371,300	2	409,300	5	511,100	86	63,200	2	574,300	88	984,100	93
	N.J.	447,000	3	0	0	447,000	3	57,100	91	20,000	4	77,100	95	524,100	98
	Del.	196,000	2	2,300	2	198,300	4	17,100	12	500	5	17,600	17	215,900	21
	Total	681,000	8	374,100	4	1,055,100	12	585,300	189	83,700	11	669,000	200	1,724,100	212
III	Md.	825,900	11	0	0	825,900	11	371,700	34	0	0	371,700	34	1,197,600	45
	Va.	826,000	6	0	0	826,000	6	585,900	17	0	0	585,900	17	1,411,900	23
	N.C.	972,900	10	0	0	972,900	10	0	0	0	0	0	0	972,900	10
	Total	2,624,800	27	0	0	2,624,800	27	957,600	51	0	0	957,600	51	3,582,400	78
IV	S.C.	18,500	4	0	0	18,500	4	164,600	18	0	0	164,600	18	183,100	22
	Ga.	7,000	1	3,300	2	10,300	3	133,700	16	19,800	4	153,500	20	163,800	23
	Fla.	275,500	10	15,000	1	290,500	11	973,700	49	139,500	8	1,113,200	57	1,403,700	68
	Ala.	403,000	6	0	0	403,000	6	1,900	5	0	0	1,900	5	404,900	11
	Miss.	3,500	1	1,000	1	4,500	2	118,800	8	0	0	118,800	8	123,300	10
	Total	707,500	22	19,300	4	726,800	26	1,392,700	96	159,300	12	1,552,000	108	2,278,800	134
VII	La.	51,400	1	2,500	1	53,900	2	957,000	9	21,400	1	978,400	10	1,032,300	12
	Tex.	0	0	2,500	1	2,500	1	487,800	14	443,700	12	931,500	26	934,000	27
	Total	51,400	1	5,000	2	56,400	3	1,444,800	23	465,100	13	1,909,900	36	1,966,300	39
IX	Calif.	0	0	0	0	0	0	6,900	4	1,600	5	8,500	9	8,500	9
	Ore.	0	0	0	0	0	0	4,300	4	8,500	6	13,300	10	13,300	10
	Wash.	200	1	900	1	1,100	2	44,000	44	--	-	45,000	44	45,100	46
	Total	200	1	900	1	1,100	2	55,700	52	10,100	11	65,800	63	66,900	65
U.S. Totals		4,172,100	104	400,100	13	4,572,200	117	4,879,300	725	738,200	50	5,617,500	775	10,189,700	892

* U. S. GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE: 1969 O - 333-980